

THE PRACTICAL

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2000 STATE CHAMPION - LOUISIANA

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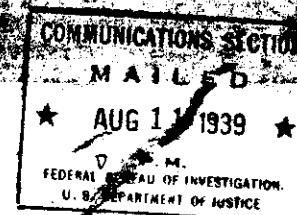
There are enclosed herewith two photostatic copies of a communication dated July 19, 1937, received by the Attorney General from Mr. Gerald L. K. Hart, Detroit Edison Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, and referred to the Bureau. It is desired that you copy be furnished by your office to United States

the main communication between

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John Peter Zenger JOURNALIST

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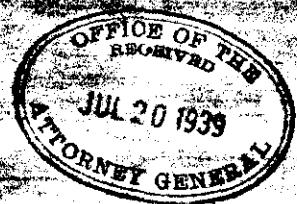
Mr. W. A. Tanner _____
Mr. Vining _____
Mr. Darrow _____
Mr. Gandy _____
Mr. Hodge _____
Mr. Johnson _____
Mr. Wadsworth _____
Mr. Read _____
Mr. Soper _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. G. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Wm. Gandy _____

1

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Rosenblum
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Herbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. Lawler
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sears
Mr. Quinn

July 18, 1939

For Immediate Release



Fuel was added to the already brightly burning conflagration of the Louisiana graft scandal today by Gerald L. K. Smith, National Chairman of the Committee of 1,000,000 and close associate of the late Huey P. Long, who charged, in a prepared statement, that the recently indicted individuals in Louisiana were part and parcel, bone and tissue of the Roosevelt New Deal machine. - 180

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-32509
Smith, who repudiated the existing New Deal Louisiana organization in 1936 because of their deal with Franklin Roosevelt, when interviewed today concerning the current scandals of the Pelican State, said:

"Inasmuch as I was with Huey Long when he was killed, spoke the last words over his grave in the presence of his weeping family and two hundred thousand mourners, I consider it in place to break my three year silence concerning certain matters involving the good people of Louisiana and their assassinated leader. 8/1

"Contrary to certain impressions that we have received, the thieves, embezzlers, and crooks that are being exposed in Louisiana today are bone and muscle, blood and tissue part of the Roosevelt New Deal machine. All corruption that will be revealed as the investigation of these personalities and these scandals develops will prove to have taken place after the Louisiana organization was corrupted, bought, and taken over bodily by Mr. Roosevelt. 8/1

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"I wonder if Mr. Murphy, the Attorney General of the United States, would dare complete this investigation as it ties into Louisiana, Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Washington, D. C., and the White House?

"It is interesting to note that although two or three of us insisted upon an investigation of these affairs for the past three years, that the United States Government took practically no interest in this program of thievery and WPA scandal and New Deal corruption. The thing broke wide open in their face like a wild firecracker.

"What has been revealed thus far is peanuts. The one question that the American people must have answered is this, Why, when Huey Long, the most potent and effective enemy of the Roosevelt New Deal, was at the very zenith of his power in the Senate, in the South, and in America--why, when he was assassinated, was there no investigation on the part of the United States Government as to the conspiracy behind that assassination?

"Mr. Monte Hart, now under indictment, said to me, 'Gerald, we don't dare press the investigation in the state legislature or we will lose the Roosevelt political patronage.'

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on relief, and vote the anti-New Deal ticket.

"These facts were made known to the representatives of the United States Government. At that time, former Governor James Noe even presented a bound volume of eleven thousand signed affidavits, but no action was taken. I even, when I spoke in the New York City Hippodrome, in October, 1936, displayed one whole volume of these affidavits, and no action was taken.

"Mr. Frank Murphy may send fifty men to prison for embezzlement, forgery, misappropriation of funds in this combination Louisiana-New Deal program of corruption, but he will never satisfy the people of Louisiana and the millions of people in the South until he has laid before the people of the United States the report of a complete, thorough investigation into the conspiracy behind the assassination of the New Deal's worst enemy, Huey P. Long.

"Whether Attorney General Murphy has the courage to investigate the assassination of Huey P. Long or not may answer the question, Is he a statesman or a politician, is he a judicial mentality or a New Deal puppet?

"I prophesy that nothing will be brought out reflecting on the way Huey P. Long handled money; nothing will be brought out revealing corruption prior to the deal between these indicted personalities and President Roosevelt; and, when this mess is cleaned up it will be cleaned up by representatives of the people who were loyal to Huey Long when he lived, when he was killed, and since his death. This loyalty was based largely upon his courage to sacrifice patronage, prestige, and political power in order to oppose the bureaucratic, socialistic, corrupt dictatorship of Mr. Roosevelt's alphabetical New Deal.

"In the fall of '36 I addressed seventy-two thousand people in an open park in New Orleans, at which time I foretold this whole program of corruption.

"I am afraid that if Attorney General Murphy presses the investigation into the Hot Oil program in Louisiana, he will come painfully close to the sensitive nerve system of 'honest' Harold Ickes."

JFS:COH

Time: 3:20 p.m.

RECORDED &
JULY 9, 1938 INDEXED

62-38509-11
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 20 1938

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. YARD

FBI, MR. JAMES B. YARD, DIRECTOR, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
O. POLITICAL SITUATION

ONE TWO

✓ SAC Sackett called from New Orleans and furnished the following developments concerning the above-entitled matter:

George Caldwell, the Superintendent of Construction at Louisiana State University who resigned a few days ago, was arrested on a Federal Commissioner's complaint in New Orleans this morning and has been released on \$10,000.00 bond. The complaint charges Caldwell with having used WPA labor and material for unauthorized purposes. It appears that the U. S. Attorney subpoenaed Caldwell before the Grand Jury and upon his refusal to sign a waiver and testify, the U. S. Attorney had the WPA Investigators swear to a complaint.

One J. Fair Hardin, who up until about three months ago was Assistant U. S. Attorney at Shreveport and who is a vigorous prosecutor, together with another individual, has been appointed a Special Assistant to the Attorney General of the State by Governor Long. Early this afternoon, Hardin telegraphed U. S. Attorney Vlosca that he, Hardin, has a great deal of information which definitely indicates a violation of the mail fraud statutes on the part of Dr. Smith in connection with Smith's having sent forged bonds through the mails. Based on this information, Mr. Vlosca has telephonically requested the Post Office Inspectors at Fort Worth to have a Post Office Inspector conduct the necessary investigation in Baton Rouge, which will be done tomorrow apparently.

Mr. Sackett's teletype last night showed the result of the interview with Jones M. Brown. This individual furnished FBI Agents considerably more information than he has given any other agency, State or Federal and admitted his correct name to be James Murphy. He also stated he was born at Pittston, Pennsylvania, on June 4, 1898. He is quite fearful of physical violence should it become known that he is James Murphy. Something occurred in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which is causing him considerable concern. He was arrested by the Pittsburgh Police Department in 1920 allegedly on a fictitious charge of failing to pay an employee, which is stated to be the result of his crusading as a newspaper man against crooked politics in Pittsburgh. Brown's

MEMO FOR MR. TANKE

7-7-39

Fingerprints were taken by the Sheriff's Office at Baton Rouge when he was arrested on the 21st of June, 1938. These prints were forwarded to the Bureau. The name of James Marshall Brown, Brown, was the name of his fingerprints in the files of the Bureau. This information will result in his prior arrest being investigated. Sackett requested the criminal record of Brown, which was checked with the idea in mind of using the same in the event of obtaining further information from Brown. It is requested that to furnish the Bureau further descriptive data in order to effect a positive identification. Sackett also stated he desired a check made on James Murphy at Pittsburgh today and I told him this would be taken care of.

Mr. Sackett conferred with Mr. Attorney Tosca today in an effort to determine the status of the entire case in Louisiana at the present time. According to Mr. Tosca, Special Assistant to the Attorney General Arnold Rum in New Orleans, has heckled the witnesses before the Grand Jury to such an extent that the Grand Jury has asked Tosca not to permit Rum to appear before the Grand Jury. It is Rum's desire to have all the witnesses appearing giving false testimony in his opinion indicated for perjury.

From the information in Tosca's possession at the present time, the income tax case against Mr. Rum is not very strong. The evidence consists of several items during the 1936, 1937 and 1938 income tax returns on which Rum failed to pay the tax. Mr. J. Attorney Tosca expects to have these tax evasion indictments returned as he makes each other. However, with respect to the WPA investigation before the Grand Jury, he does not expect any indictments to be returned until all his witnesses have been submitted. It is contemplated to have one large conspiracy indictment. The WPA investigators have not as yet submitted any written reports to the Mr. J. Attorney Rum as has been promised copies of all evidence gathered.

Respectfully,

J. F. BEARS

16

1308 Masonic Temple Building,
New Orleans, Louisiana

July 22, 1939

Enclosed is your typed
United States Attorney,
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

In accordance with past practice of this office,
further information relative to alleged WPA irregularities is
being transmitted.

An anonymous telephone call was received from an individual who advised that in the construction of a garage at the Jackson Barracks in New Orleans, Louisiana, old bricks from Charity Hospital had been used; that two car loads of new bricks which were supposed to have been used in the construction of this garage had been hauled away from the Jackson Barracks in State trucks. He advised that other WPA material had been removed from the Jackson Barracks in State trucks but he did not know the disposition of these materials.

The same informant advised that WPA labor and materials were used on private projects at Laplace, Louisiana; that OSCAR RENAUD, president of the bank at Laplace, and ANTOINE MARTIN, an attorney and plantation owner at Laplace, benefited by WPA labor and materials.

There is also transmitted herewith a copy of a letter addressed to the Attorney General, postmarked at University, Louisiana, July 1, 1939.

Very truly yours,

R. E. SACKETT
M. [Signature]
B. E. SACKETT,
Special Agent in Charge

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
(1935)

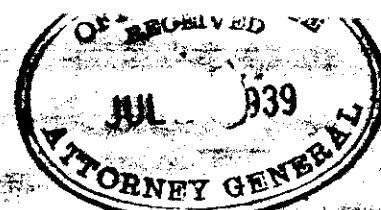
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Enclosure

CWD:sh
cc Bureau

#62-977 (WPA IRREGULARITIES - Information Concerning)
#62-978 (LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS - Information Concerning)

Dear Frank,



While you have them on the job in Louisiana
I have your men to question Mrs. Francis Jastrowski
who I believe is still working in the City hall in N.O.
or was in 38. Also the woman who had charge of the
City owned apt. house where Mr. Jastrowski lives in 37.

You can get a lot of info on where P.W.A.
other federal money went and how. Bob Mastri and
Dick got it. Also you can get the low down on
the Auto license money, and salary ~~per cent~~ reduction
from City and state employees.

Best of luck to you.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUL 25 1939	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
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Sincerely, George

111
P.S. Michyan is sure gone to hell since you left - nothing

Attny Gen Murphy: Dear Sir

These slickers will make a fool out of you, unless you put real pressure on them - as Dewey would do.

With out Voting Machine
Na is at their Mercy, Votes are not even counted by this gang.

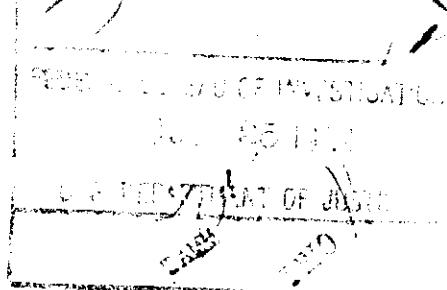
Very truly

J.C. Wigginton

H. O. Resident



RECORDED & INDEXED



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New Orleans, La.
July 24, 1939.

AIRMAIL-SPECIAL
DELIVERY

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS:
INFORMATION CONCERNING.

On July 24, 1939, RENE A. VIOSCA, United States Attorney, New Orleans, made a formal request for a Bureau accountant familiar with hot oil investigations. He advised that CLIFFORD C. ROWLAND and DONALD BURNETT of the Division of Petroleum Conservation, Department of Interior, had submitted a report covering an investigation of the Lincoln Oil Company in 1937 which was not acted upon. That W. A. HELLIS, Greek Consul, is President of the Lincoln Oil Company and ROBERT S. MAESTRI, Mayor of New Orleans, is a stockholder.

VIOSCA advised that the investigators of the Division of Petroleum Conservation had submitted some preliminary reports and were continuing their investigation, but complete investigation would necessitate checking the books of several big oil companies to see if there was an effort on the part of these companies to falsify their records.

MR. VIOSCA suggested that in the event a Bureau accountant was assigned to investigate this case, the accountant would work with the investigators of the Division of Petroleum Conservation who are familiar with hot oil investigations. He advised the investigation would entail a good deal of work and would probably take at least a month.

If the Bureau considers accepting the investigation requested by MR. VIOSCA under the same conditions as the mail fraud investigations are accepted, it is suggested that the Bureau authorize this office to request the reports of the Division of Petroleum Conservation so that it might determine the exact extent of the accounting investigation necessary.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Very truly yours,

B. E. Sackett
B. E. Sackett,
Special Agent in Charge.

CWD:WH

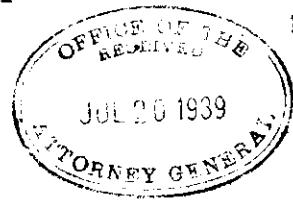
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
JUL 26 1939	
THO	

From: Gerald L. K. Smith
Detroit Leland Hotel
Detroit, Michigan

July 18, 1939

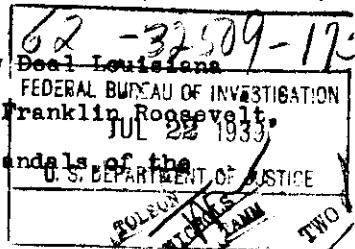
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The Sun

ARABIAN NIGHTS IN MOULIN

remain while our
is abroad.

THE SUN—Sir: The
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industry is one
on home relief

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want a return
economic affairs.
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ESTER B. SALAZANO.

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THE SUN—Sir: A
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English newspaper,
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its history the herd
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A day or two later,
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Legally, What Is a Bank?

Ambiguity Found in the Quinn Saturday Closing Act.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Despite its far-reaching effect upon millions of New Yorkers, the recently enacted amendment to the General Construction Law, which provides that "Any bank or trust company duly chartered, incorporated, organized and/or doing business within the State of New York may remain closed on each Saturday during the months of July and August upon the adoption of a resolution to such effect by a majority vote of the board of directors thereof," evidencing bad craftsmanship on the part of the State

"NEUTRALITY" EXAMINED

A New Jersey Analysis of United States
Thought on Alien Politics.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Why bother with all this unnecessary talk about "neutrality"? This nation was not "neutral," in the true sense of the word, even before entering the last big European conflict. In spite of it being "stuck" for many millions of dollars, it has not changed. We know perfectly well, and so do all Germans, Italians and Japanese, we shall always be involved when, and if Britain is in danger.

Whether or not we should always "aid" Great Britain to keep her power

A River Changed Its Be

Nature's Conspiracy Against the Eig
eenth Amendment.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Memories of prohibition days recall to mind an incident involving what always seemed to me an example nature in her most pranksome mood. A river changed its course, an ex-circus puncher took advantage of it with excellent profit and the law officers of two countries irately pored over the tomes for precedent to justify the actions to enforce the law.

On the northern bank of the Grande on the Texas-Mexico border situated the city of El Paso.

vention to fight in p. He was hit once w king bull and al. One unknown rea led battle was not a conclusion. The never, the keeper bull dead and fear had evidently met a the night. One eye destroyed and his he was a magnifi cent seven years of age. In some curious aspect of which had at the internal organs were found to be a pulp; strangely a bone had been

the newly-formed Cattle Association, less Runciman is a of Tankerville has son of the killed Hancock Museum, will shortly be on GEORGE JULIAN.

Base Hospitals in China.

THE SUN—Sir: We a letter from Dr. director of the Red of China, in which are 350 base hospitals, about 1,000 there is only one each bed.

they have almost need: 60,000 cotton 30,000 large sheets, 100,000 quilted 30,000 pillow cases, 10 sets of men's pa sta.

not be new. We for worn bedding, to make a donation the American Bud to China, Inc., 57 York city, and we the bedding called

Co Tui, M. D., men of Blanket Committee.

20.

Be Controlled?

THE SUN—Sir: In cycling has reached eat as that of the the sport was com was good fun.

a menace to the myself. Deaths and out daily.

ways have been for no real solution, is needed, and the ns are offered: e for bicycling only, on main thorough

must observe all

cycles, fee \$2.

should be subject spection. Cycler enjoys com m' responsibility.

us S. BLUMENTHAL.

History.

THE SUN—Sir: Who e for P

Legislature contains an amendment which, unless voted, may give it to several schools.

Whether by virtue of a statute popularly known as the Quine Act, Saturdays—to banks and trust companies—are legal holidays or are such only when the banks and trust companies close pursuant to a regularly adopted resolution is a moot question. A bank whose directors refuse to close on Saturdays may be forced to do so because of a by-law which requires it to close on legal holidays. Certainly the legal implications are many.

A second, and perhaps more serious, question is this: Is the term "bank" a generic one, covering all the various types of banking institutions, or is it a specific one denoting only one kind of banking institutions? If the former, much of the conflict that has suddenly come to the fore will dissolve into thin air. But if the latter, as some insist is the correct interpretation, then savings banks, industrial banks, savings and loan associations, &c., the majority of which have announced that they will close on Saturdays, are in a position where they are taking advantage of a law not expressly intended for them and inconveniencing many depositors who, for lack of organization or spokesmen, are unable to make their protests heard.

There is no real definition of the term "bank," for the State Banking Law (Section 2) and the Tax Law (Section 218-p, sub. 5) give it a technical definition which is inapplicable to any other type of banking institution, while the Negotiable Instruments Law (Section 2) gives it an extremely broad one, namely: "Bank" includes any person or association of persons carrying on the business of banking, whether incorporated or not."

It may very well be that Governor Lehman was cognizant of all this, because, in approving the bill, he stated: "My attention has been called to several alleged defects in the bill. These defects, however, can be remedied at the next regular session of the Legislature. Since the bill is purely permissive, I am approving it."

In the absence of any authoritative statement to clear the fog created by the loose language of the statute, no one knows what the Legislature really meant. Pending the convening of the next regular session in January, 1940, some clarification should be made.

LOUIS RACHEFSKY, Assistant Editor, New York Legislative Service. New York, July 19.

The Latest Epstein Mystery.

From the Hartford Courant.

Students in London are debating Jacob Epstein's controversial figure of Adam on display in Leicester Galleries. There are many who hold that it is a three-ton conception of Jacob Epstein by Jacob Epstein.

A Distinguished Physician on the Perils of the "Regular Life."

"Y. Y." in the New Statesman and Nation, London.

I wonder what the headmistress thought when, on speech-day at a girls' school last Saturday, she heard Sir E. Farquhar Buzzard advising her pupils: "Whatever you do in life, don't lead what is called a regular life." "It seems a terrible thing for a doctor to say," he went on to these innocent auditors, "experience has been that people

are just naturally

more or less

irregular."

It is a remarkable

statement, and

to D. with the promise that no lights and all fetching a thousand guineas.

MR. FARLEY has MR. MORGENTHAU at a disadvantage. HENRY may cry his baby bonds, but he does not suggest that they will ever be worth more than he promised on the face. JIM sells his commemorative stamps at 99 per cent profit and they never have to be redeemed. It is almost as good as the government's Social Security racket.

Legislative Futility in New Jersey.

After nearly seven months of debate, discussion and argument the New Jersey Legislature has failed to solve the State's most urgent problem, the raising of money for relief. It is true that in the last couple of weeks the Assembly and the Senate, by a miracle of energy and perseverance, succeeded in passing two bills devised to obtain some money for the aid of townships and boroughs requiring aid in assistance of their poor. One of these bills, however, though it became a law, is now open to question before the courts because it calls for diversion of \$2,000,000 from the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund. Governor MOORE has just vetoed the other relief measure passed by the Legislature, a bill to divert \$3,000,000 from the State sinking fund.

Public sentiment in New Jersey has been partially organized to oppose a bond issue that will increase the State's obligations. But dissension in the Legislature has been a major cause of the months of haggling over a problem which still seems far from solution. Perhaps the most salutary lesson to be drawn from the situation is that if the people want more effective State government they must make their voices heard in the Legislature. Apathy is expensive.

Russia's Population.

The Soviet government has issued an analysis of the census taken on January 17 of the whole country except the far northern section, where the count is now beginning. The number of inhabitants as of the census day is put at 170,467,186, of whom 81,664,981 were males and 88,802,205 were females. The last previous count was made in 1926, and according to the figures the population increased in the thirteen years since then by 23,439,271, or 15.9 per cent, the average annual increase in the period being 1.23 per cent. The increase in the population of continental United States recorded by the census of 1930 was equivalent to 15.7 for ten years, being 16.1 per cent for the period between census day 1920 and census day 1930, the date of the enumeration having been set back in the interval. With the exception of the decade 1910-1920, in which the date was also changed, this was the lowest percentage of increase ever recorded in the United States, the rate for the period having been 15.4.

Don't Do an Injury to the Poor. The New Deal Roosevelt was right when he came if the House had blocked the bill to which he had agreed. Now it appears that when the Labor Board ten days ago changed its rules to permit employers to contribute for union elections, it was only trying in vain to turn the tide. For on June 30 that the Rules Committee of the House voted 7 to 4 to report favorably the resolution for an inquiry into the board's work.

By the terms of this resolution, introduced by Representative HOWARD W. SMITH of Virginia, a Democrat, a committee of five will be empowered to study the rise or fall in number of strikes since the labor board was set up; the charges of bias in the board's conduct for or against any labor organization and for or against employers; the need for amendments to the Wagner act, and trouble arising from rules and regulations of the board. That the House has accepted such a task is due partly to the tactics of its Labor Committee, which has seemed intentionally to drag out the hearings on amendments.

If an inquiry into the board's record should at last rout the foes of amendment, and so assist in satisfying the clamor for modification of an unfair law, it may seem justified. For the moment it is encouraging to note that the vote in the House, 254 to 134, indicates that popular disgust with the Wagner act and its consequences is making some impression on Congress.

Relief for Trade and Whence It Must Come.

A man from Missouri who is in the House of Representatives said recently that if President ROOSEVELT insists on passage of the spending-lending bill Congress "undoubtedly will be here until September 1." But it was ten days ago that the Congressman made this observation, and now it seems likely that pressure to pass the \$2,800,000 bill may be strong enough to force it through before an August adjournment. How can it help business while the general feeling persists that the effect will be not to revive better times, but to cause in 1940 a false spurt like that of 1937? Originally the program in the bill was defined as self-liquidating, but the change of name to "works financing act" now reveals plainly the kind of criticism Congress has heard of such pretense.

A notion persists in Congress, moreover, that business is now more seriously in want of loans than of anything else. Measures have been proposed to increase RFC insurance of loans to small business, as though that were the essential and immediate need. If borrowing alone could revive small business quickly, the borrowers, Congress may be sure, would have squawked more loudly for aid by now.

The proposal of Congress to vote in the House of the House of Representatives, a resolution of 242 Representatives, to prohibit the members of the House to express their resentment of the Wagner act and the abuses of relief by political ends. The debate on the proposal to prohibit Federal employees in administrative positions from active interference in political campaigns took an astonishing turn. Foes of the measure attempted to load upon it a number of amendments that they hoped would seem so severe to the membership of the House as to bring about defeat of the bill. They reckoned without careful consideration of the strength of a powerful bloc of Democrats who joined the Republican members in approving the bill. If the Senate retains section 9 of the bill as adopted by the House it will become unlawful for employees of the executive branch of the Federal government to use their position for purposes that will affect the result of a primary or general election in which President, Vice-President and members of Congress are nominated or elected. In this as in the vote on the NLRB inquiry and on the new relief act the lower house has displayed disapproval of methods fundamental to the Administration's policies.

A thief attempting to escape by rowboat from a patrolman in the Bronx was captured by a policeman who had providently concealed a skiff for use in such an emergency. That officer of the law does not belong on the force, but in a detective story.

Humorous, but Lingering
Chemist, stir me up a scuttle
Of some deadly, direful draft
Lingering, but not too subtle,
Brew me, with your utmost craft

Something with a latent venom
Leisurely, but sure as fate;
For there are some public enemies
I plan to liquidate.

I require a lethal potion
To correct the sad mistake
Of the cooks who have the notion
That a shortcake's made with cake.

Also I would fain disseminate this stuff among the guys
Who insist on putting lemon
In their so-called apple pies.

Chemist, slip me stuff to slaughter
Chefs who make "New England
Chowder"
With tomato juice and water;
And I'd like a poison powder

Which'll put a funeral taper
At the wicked Baker's head
Who sells yeast and blotting paper
As Old-Fashioned Home-Made Bread.

Fire burn and cauldron bubble
With a dose that's wholly evil
Which'll cause consistent trouble
In the innards of the weevil

Who disguises meats and fishes
With a highly seasoned sauce
And "improves" our native dishes
So that they're a total loss;

Brew me stuff from witches' caverns
Which will lay upon their biers
The poison'd me wares

attacked by
and that three
pushed into a
house, but
found the car
fully mangled;
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At the Hague
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Newcastle, who
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New York, J

Needs of Red

To THE EDITOR
are in receipt
Robert K. S. I
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mattress proto
80,000 towels,
jamas, 32,000 b

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New York, J

Should Bid

To THE EDITOR
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4. highway regul
5. No night
6. License a
7. Bicycl to regulation

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Brooklyn, Ju

Ques
To THE EDITOR
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HYDE PARK BOULEVARD

• CHICAGO

CHICAGO BEACH HOTEL

TELEPHONE HYDE PARK 4000

TELEPHONE HYDE PARK 4000

四

Thursday
July 10th 39

RECORDED
&
INDEXED.

62-32579-174

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 24 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1990-1991

Dear Sir

Der

tip Abo Shusha ^{THE} fian
10 Devin Irild

New Orleans Mild

some estate with more

he was to spend in
a ship.

Charity Hospital from

some one who is well

posted as well S. Weiss
as early

others. Sincerely
of S. M.

111

J. S. Webb

36

1308 Masonic Temple Building
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 20, 1939

Honorable Rene J. Vlosca
United States Attorney
Post Office Building
New Orleans, Louisiana

Re: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS -
INFORMATION CONCERNING.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the past procedure in this office, information received which may have a bearing upon the present situation is being forwarded to your office herewith.

J. N. Kelley, Count-O-Ink Company, 817 Poydras Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that he had a brother named W. P. Kelley who was foreman of the municipal repair plant in New Orleans and his brother had known for two years that trucks had been taking WPA materials to the home of the former Governor R. W. Leche, Covington, Louisiana.

Kelley also advised that Hellis, Robert Maestri and R. W. Leche were supposed to be partners in an oil company in Louisiana; that this oil company was known as the Lincoln Oil Company; and that Hellis was the front man for this company, Hellis being a naturalized Greek who is now in Greece. Kelley advised that the Greek Consulate buys 4,000,000 barrels a year from the United States; that a great deal of this oil is purchased through the Lincoln Oil Company; that the oil is shipped on the Lykes Brothers Steamship Company ships and that the oil shipped is reported to be "hot oil". Kelley advised that he understood 16,000,000 barrels of "hot oil" went out in the last four years; that at one time when he was in the offices of the Lincoln Oil Company the bookkeeper there complained about the big figures he had to place in small spaces, indicating that the company was sending a great deal of oil out of the United States. He advised that the Lykes Brothers Steamship Company and the Lincoln Oil Company were on the same floor of the Whitney Bank Building in New Orleans.

The informant known as Tom again telephonically called this office on July 18, 1939. He advised that he understood Dr. Lorio took orders from R. W. Leche; that Dr. Lorio pocketed everything he obtained. Tom advised that there were no salary deductions of WPA workers in New Orleans as far as he knew; and that the only possibility of this was in connection with the ~~WORK~~ INVESTIGATION

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170 SEP 17 1964

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

29

Honorable Rene A. Viosca - Page 2.

July 20, 1939

on Tulane Avenue. He advised that he understood Hampton Reynolds got a reke-off from companies who furnished materials in connection with WPA projects. Tom further advised that the United States Conservation Commission was supposed to have given to Louisiana State University the sum of \$575,000.00 to be used by the University for the construction of some sort of conservation building. He advised that although the Conservation Commission books show that \$575,000.00 had left the Conservation Commission, the University books indicate that the University received \$67,500.00 less than the Conservation Commission showed they received; that there was evidently a leakage along the line; that he did not know if Rankin or some other State officials received the money. Tom further advised that he understood Seymour Weiss was half-owner of a gambling house at 118½ Baronne Street and was connected there with Bob Maestri and Joe Brown. Tom also advised that he understood that Weiss, Dreyfert and Seifert did a lot of work for the State of Louisiana; that at one time Weiss and Dreyfert tried to give Huey Long \$50,000.00 which Long threw out the door and would not accept. Tom advised that Seymour Weiss was reported to have been born at Bunkie, Louisiana, but from there he went to Alexandria, Louisiana, where he became a pimp and was supposed to have been made by Huey P. Long.

The enclosed anonymous letters are also included with this letter for your information.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT,
Special Agent in Charge.

CWD
PMH
62-978
cc: Bureau
Encs. (2)

(Copy of anonymous communication
received July 18, 1939)

Gentlemen:

If you would like to have some real evidence handed to you on a platter, you might investigate the following: About two years ago, it is alleged that Jim Hill had charge of the deducts fund. When it had reached the three hundred thousand mark he said to the ring, "I propose to take over this money for myself. This will probably make you angry and you may wish to start something, but you had better not. I have filed away in my deposit box at the bank a twenty page typewritten statement giving a statement of your individual records. If I turn up missing, or am injured in any way those records become public property. Knowing me as well as you do, you will admit that no one can tell your story as well as I." It is stated that these funds were used in the investment in a New Orleans race track. I wonder whether his income tax report covers this gain.

XVZ

(Postmarked New Orleans, La.,
July 18, 1939.)

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(Copy of anonymous communication
received July 19, 1939)

The man behind the insurance racket is Thom Hill, the boss Pendegast of N. O. He operates a refrigerator business with Joe Skelly, the Commissioner, at the corner of St. Charles & Calliope St. Woe betide you if you don't buy their goods. Their names do not appear in this firm but they are the owners allright.

Hill also operates with Joe Brown that jip joint at 1181 Baronne St. It is a 50-50 proposition. Hill maintains a fine home with a retinue of servants, riding stable, yacht Alto at Claremont Harbor in Mississippi.

How does he do it? How much income tax does he pay?

This is strictly confidential. My motive is not revenge but only for the purpose of helping the Federal Government to catch all the crooks operating in La.

(Postmarked New Orleans, La.,
July 18, 1939)

August 11, 1939

ACW:LS

RECORDED 62-32509-173

66-1045-49

Special Agent in Charge
New Orleans, Louisiana

Re: CRIME CONDITIONS - LOUISIANA

Dear Sir:

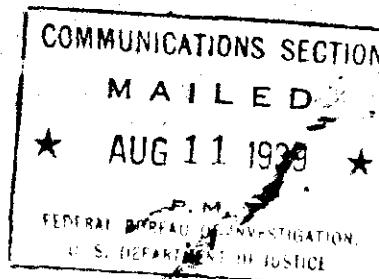
There are inclosed herewith two photostatic copies of a letter dated at Goose Creek, Texas, July 19, 1939, received by the Bureau from Mr. W. L. Atwood. It is desired that one copy be furnished by your office to United States Attorney Renshaw, New Orleans.

Mr. Atwood's letter has not been acknowledged.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure



Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lawler _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sears _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Q. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Bandy _____

PO Box 55,
Goose Creek, Texas,
July 19, 1939.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

While this is an unsolicited report, and the statements made here are ones that have come to me through members of my mother's relatives who are closely associated with the present state administration in Louisiana, I believe them to be true and might be of some value in conducting your investigation in Louisiana. I should prefer that my name not be disclosed, but a little check can verify a part of these statements.

The late State Senator from Alexandria, George W. Lee, was a brother to my mother. From statements made by him I believe that Huey Long was not killed by Dr. Wiess as alleged. Interrogate the coroner that removed the bullet, and the nurse that was present at the time, and I believe that you will find the calibre of the bullet removed was .45, the type fired by an Italian bodyguard. The calibre of the gun alleged to have been used by Dr. Wiess was smaller.

The next item is rebates, or commissions paid to individuals closely connected to the administration, for supplies furnished the State and WPA projects. I understand that my uncle received a rebate of 10 cents per cubic yard on all gravel or sand delivered on jobs in a certain part of central Louisiana. This same policy was apparently followed in other parts of the State.

RECORDED & INDEXED

My uncle was also associated with Earl Long. I have heard that the present governor has knowingly filched the state out of funds. In one case a cow belonging to him had been killed on the roadside. He had the cow skinned and sold the carcass to one of the State institutions at Alexandria, either the home for Feeble Minded, or the Insane Asylum, for ~~several~~ ^{several} dollars of \$100.00. The carcass was unfit for human consumption and was dumped. If your representative will interview Mrs. Ola Barron, in Pineville, I believe she will verify this statement.

Earl Long also carries deadheads on the payroll and I have several relatives so carried. There is my uncle's widow, Mrs. Alice Lee, of Pineville whom I understand is carried on the payroll at a salary of \$200.00 per month. Also her son who is a school boy is carried as a junior game warden at a salary of \$50.00. There are other relatives that are being deadheaded on the State payroll. I understand another uncle receives a commission on all cooking oils sold to state institutions.

I get along fine with my relatives, but cannot condone their political actions. For this reason would prefer that this information be treated confidential. At the same time it will be a lead others that I am sure are being on the graft-end of state and federal funds.

Sincerely,

W. Latwood

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

BES:ESK

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

July 17, 1939

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. Lawler
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sears
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. [initials]
Miss Candy

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR RECORDED

60
Re: Louisiana State Officials:
Information Concerning

62-32509-11
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

I understand from Agent Shivers that he suggested that ~~UL 20 1939~~
your party stop at the Jung Hotel in New Orleans in the event you go
there, since of course you would not want to stay at the ~~Hotel Roosevelt~~ ~~Hotel Roosevelt~~

I do not believe you will desire to stay at the Jung Hotel for ~~10 JUL 1939~~
the reason that Superintendent of Police George Reyer, Chief of Detectives ~~10 JUL 1939~~
Grosh, and a number of detectives are continuously hanging around this
hotel, and your movements would be known to them, even if they didn't
make arrangements to hear your telephone conversations at the hotel.

It is my understanding that the St. Charles Hotel, which
is located only about a block and a half from our office in New Orleans
has two floors of air cooled rooms, and I have instructed Agent Shivers
to contact the manager discreetly for the purpose of determining whether
suitable air cooled rooms in such hotel can be available for you and
your party.

I also assume that Attorney General Murphy and yourself will
want to use our Field Division office as your headquarters during
your stay in New Orleans. These offices are not air conditioned and
the weather in New Orleans has been unusually humid and hot. I left
instructions before leaving that the office should attempt to borrow
or rent some individual unit air cooling equipment so that we might
at least be able to air cool one or two of these offices.

May I also suggest that in the event you go to New Orleans, it
will be desirable to have some sound recording equipment shipped there
immediately together with a qualified sound man. Your arrival in the city
will mean a tremendous volume of telephone calls, and Attorney General
Murphy will undoubtedly be making a number of telephone calls we will
want to have recorded. The telephone arrangement in the New Orleans

Memo for the Director

- 2 -

July 17, 1939

office is such that it is not possible to listen in over any other extension and I believe that the sound recording could be used to good advantage both on the telephone lines and to record conversations in conference rooms over microphones already installed in the office.

May I also respectfully suggest that if you have time to see me for a few minutes before you leave, I might advantageously discuss the situation with you in person.

Respectfully submitted,



B. E. Sackett,
Special Agent in Charge

29

July 15, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am attaching hereto, for your information, a copy of a teletype message dated July 14, 1939, from the New Orleans Division of the FBI, setting forth the progress in the investigation in that State.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. O. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION			
M A I L E D			
★	JUL 15 1939	★	
★			

16-22500-171

REC'D	1	1
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		

RECORDED

JFS:DF

62-32503-3

July 14, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
MR. MATTHEW J. KODDIE

With reference to your memorandum of July 11, 1939, transmitting a letter addressed to the Attorney General under date of July 1, 1939, from Guy J. Prevot, Menura, Louisiana, I am forwarding copies of this letter to my Special Agent in Charge at New Orleans in order that copies thereof may be transmitted to the United States Attorney for such action as is deemed appropriate by him.

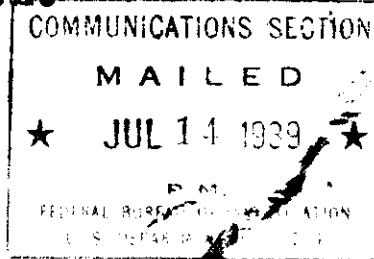
I am returning herewith the communication above referred to.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Crowl	_____
Mr. Morris	_____
Mr. Lawler	_____
Mr. McIntire	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sears	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Say	_____
Mr. W.	_____

Inclosure



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Department of Justice
Office of the Assistant to the Attorney General
Washington

July 11, 1939

Hoover - Louisiana
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER, DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Key	.....
Mr. Pagan	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Taylor	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Sears	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Attached find letter from Mr. Guy J.

X Prevot, advising that he will be glad to
testify relative to the election held in
September, 1938, in Louisiana.

This communication is being referred to
you for whatever consideration you may deem
it merits.

rm
Matthew McGuire
Matthew F. McGuire
Acting Assistant to the Attorney General

RECORDED

&

INDEXED

62-32509-171

7/11/39
Act

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copy

GUY J. PREVOT

Bangura, La., July 1st, 1939

Atty General Frank Murphy,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The letter of Rev. Ira Day Lang ~~rector~~ of St. George's
episcopal church, I am for it. When ever an investigation
is made of Fraud in voting in this state, please conduct
one in Avoyelles Parish - I will be only to glad to testify
in an election held Sept. 1938.

Yours Truly

/s/ Guy J. Prevot

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-32509-171

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✓ 3

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

July 19, 1939.

Mrs. Smith of the Attorney General's office tele. to ask if by any chance there had come to the Bureau files a copy of the memorandum the Attorney General had sent to Mr. Early transmitting copies of certain letters which had been sent to the Chamber of Commerce at New Orleans and also at Shreveport concerning the Louisiana situation.

She said they had been sent to the Division of Records and could not now be found.

Mrs. Smith was assured a search would be made, and Mr. Tamm was asked about this.
hug

11:25 I called Mrs. Smith and told her we had not been able to locate anything of the description given by her.

hug

RECORDED

Mr. Tamm advised that the memorandum to Mr. Early apparently had not been sent to the Bureau.

67 32509-171

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Crowley
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lawler
Mr. Lester
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sears
Mr. Q. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Booth
Miss Sandy

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

U. S. GOVERNMENT 1939

COLSON Tamm 67

48

JEH:PLS

JULY 15, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am attaching hereto, for your information, a copy of a teletype message from the Los Angeles Office of the FBI, outlining the results of the interviews with Alice Lee ~~Crofjean~~ and V. A. ~~Tharpe~~ by Agents of the FBI. These two parties have been mentioned prominently in connection with the Louisiana investigation.

Respectfully,

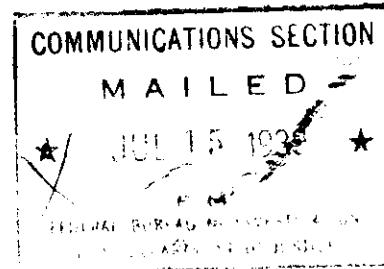
John Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Crowe _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Q. T. _____

RECORDED
&
INDEXED



62-32509-169

JUL 15 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

43

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
June 19, 1939

EAT:TEB

Time 4 p. m.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: Noe
SAC Sackett called from New Orleans and gave the following information concerning James Albert Noe to Mr. Rosen.

James Albert Noe was born at West Point, Kentucky on December 21, 1893. Here he received a very limited education in the country schools. When he was about 20 years of age he moved to Louisville, Kentucky where he became interested in the development of oil and natural gas. Thereafter he went to the Middle West where he made and lost money in the oil and gas business as it fluctuated. He enlisted in U. S. Army during the World War and served over seas. He was promoted through the grades to the position of lieutenant in the 369th Infantry. He married Anna Gray Sweeney, a school teacher, who was a member of a very old Louisiana family, on May 7, 1922. He has at the present time two children, both boys, ages 16 and 11 years. He came to Monroe, Louisiana in 1923 to make his home there and continued in the oil and natural gas business. He operated in Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas and was very successful. Shortly after coming to Monroe he met the late Senator Huey P. Long and became very friendly with him as years passed. He was one of Long's most vigorous supporters.

Received this 20/6/39
Noe was indicted April 8, 1925 in the Federal Court at Monroe, Louisiana on eight counts for violation of Section 215, U. S. Penal Code, on charges of having used the mails to defraud in connection with the sale of spurious oil stocks, apparently. He was indicted with one Y. E. Hildreth. On April 7, 1926 Hildreth pled guilty and was fined \$500.00. Noe stood trial and was acquitted by a jury on April 17, 1926.

Noe first sought political office in 1932 when he was elected to the State Senate in Louisiana. Thereafter he became even more closely associated with Huey Long, helping him in every way he could.

SEARCHED & INDEXED

6-3266-111

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUN 27 1939	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

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Mr. T. Isbell
Mr. Nathan
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Crowley
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Lawler	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. St. John	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

MEMO FOR THE DIRECTOR

- 2 -

6-19-39

Mr. Sackett stated that during the famous radio investigation of the New Orleans city administration in 1934 at which time Huey Long aired the difficulties in New Orleans, Noe acted as Presiding Officer and faithfully carried out Long's orders. In 1934 Noe was appointed President pro tem of the State Senate and in 1935 when Lieutenant Governor John B. Fornet was elected to the State Supreme Court Noe was advanced to the Lieutenant Governorship.

On March 22, 1932 the U. S. Internal Revenue Service filed a tax lien against Noe for \$1,684.94, due to underpayment of 1928 income taxes. This lien was later dismissed.

During the latter part of 1935 Noe indicated a desire to run for the Governorship but withdrew in favor of Richard W. Leche who was nominated and, in fact, elected in the latter part of 1935. Leche was to take office on May 12, 1936. About this time Governor Oscar Kelly Allen was nominated U. S. Senator of Louisiana on January 21, 1936. Governor Allen, however, died on January 28, 1936 and Noe was sworn in as Governor the same day. He acted as Governor until Leche took office on May 12, 1936. Since this date Noe has served as Senator of Louisiana from the Ouachita-Jackson-Parrish District. He has continued to live in Monroe with his family and also engages in the oil and gas business. He is reputed to be very wealthy at the present time. At the time he was friendly with Huey Long he secured some state oil lease lands and it was from these lands that he originally obtained his money. Noe broke with Leche and Leche's administration during the second legislature after Leche was elected Governor which was in the latter part of 1936. Since this time Noe has been a very bitter foe of the Leche administration.

Noe announced his candidacy for the Governorship eight months ago and has since been trying to secure the support of the public by criticizing the Leche administration. He is alleged to have obtained a great deal of evidence against Leche and his administration.

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MEMO FOR THE DIRECTOR

- 3 -

6-19-39

Indemn
According to Mr. Sackett, Mr. Charles Nutter, head of the Associated Press in New Orleans, has advised him that Noe is presently in Washington telling everything he knows to the Attorney General in an effort to have an investigation of Leche made. Mr. Sackett stated that you and the Attorney General had met Mr. Nutter when you were in New Orleans.

Noe at one time during Long's regime was Chairman of the Board of Supervisors at Louisiana State University. Noe is a Presbyterian by faith. Noe is very well liked in the northern part of Louisiana particularly, because in the minds of the people he has been a very loyal friend to Huey Long.

Mr. Sackett stated the above information was secured by going through newspaper morgues; from personal memory; and other sources.

Mr. Sackett stated that he has a very good friend, a Mr. Clark Salmon, who is Managing Editor of the Item-Tribune, which paper favors the present administration. Mr. Sackett said that Mr. Salmon would have a great deal of information of the "off-the-record" activities of Noe and that Salmon would be glad to furnish this information. Mr. Salmon can be trusted according to Mr. Sackett. Mr. Sackett stated you met Mr. Salmon when you were in New Orleans.

Mr. Sackett inquired as to whether it was desired for him to contact Mr. Salmon and secure additional information in regard to Noe. Mr. Rosen told Mr. Sackett that he would be notified in the event it was desired that he contact Mr. Salmon.

Respectfully,

E. A. TALL

JEW:RP

July 16, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am attaching hereto for your information a copy of a letter dated July 14, 1939, together with a summary report from the New Orleans Division of the FBI, summarizing as best as can be done the material in the hands of the United States Attorney upon which he contemplates prosecution against various individuals in the State of Louisiana.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures

RECORDED

62-32509-16

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 21 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

M.

7/16

Enc

411

TO

DO-8

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____ *(initials)*
Mr. Baughman _____
Miss Beahm _____
Mrs. Cleveland _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Drussel _____
Mr. Egan _____
Miss Gandy _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hottel _____
Miss Laubinger _____
Mr. Laughlin _____
Mr. Lawler _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Parsons _____
Mr. Renneberger _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Schildecker _____
Mr. Sears _____
Mr. Q. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss White _____
Files Section _____
Personnel Files _____

For Your Information _____
Note and Return _____
File _____
Return with File _____
Please Initial _____

Probable eat as desired news

for 1000 hrs

Mr. Tamm made last call 17

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

EAT: COH
AR: COH

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Washington, D. C.

July 16, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Agent R. L. Shivers called from New Orleans and talked to Inspector Rosen concerning the political situation in Louisiana.

Mr. Shivers had talked to Mr. Rogge and learned that it is planned to return in the morning an indictment against Monte E. Hart, James Monroe Smith, J. Emery Adams, Seymour Weiss and Louis Lesage for mail fraud. Mr. Shivers had a copy of the first count of the indictment in his possession but the second count had not been drawn. The indictment is substantially the same as the indictment sent to the Bureau Friday, July 14. The information and evidence pertaining to the mail fraud is summarized in the report of Special Agent C. E. Weeks, dated July 14, 1939, which was forwarded to the Bureau with the copy of the indictment.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Mr. Rogge has definitely stated the indictment will be returned in the morning and has indicated he will call the Attorney General before the return is made. Mr. Rogge has had an opportunity to go into only the mail fraud angle but has stated he is not satisfied with the WPA investigation.

62-32619-166

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Shivers has been requested by Mr. Rogge to have a discreet and confidential investigation made of Hilary J. Gaudin, Assistant United States Attorney in New Orleans. It is Mr. Rogge's understanding that Gaudin has been associated too much with Seymour Weiss and Monte Hart. Mr. Rogge was informed that his request would be communicated to you and if you authorized such, an investigation would be initiated immediately.

Mr. Shivers stated a copy of the first count of the indictment, and possibly a copy of the second count, would be forwarded to the Bureau via air mail special delivery tonight. As it has been indicated by Mr. Rogge that the evidence against Weiss is none too strong, Mr. Shivers stated you and the Attorney General might desire to have the indictment before Rogge calls in. Mr. Rosen informed Mr. Shivers that if this should be necessary, he would call Shivers at which time the indictment would have to be given over the telephone.

SEARCHED INDEXED
COPY FILED
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MEMO FOR THE DIRECTOR

7-16-39

10:05 p.m.

I called Mr. Shivers and informed him you had stated it would be satisfactory to proceed with the discreet and confidential investigation of Assistant U. S. Attorney Gaudin. Mr. Shivers stated this would be initiated the first thing in the morning.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm
E. A. Tamm

RECORDED

JPS:VTH
62-39958

August 7, 1939

Special Agent in Charge
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated July 19, 1939, wherein an anonymous informant telephonically furnished information concerning the Gurvich Agency, formerly owned by Sam Gurvich, and reputed to be presently owned by Abe Shushan, George Rayer, and Seymour Weiss.

The Bureau desires that this information be imparted to the Intelligence Unit of the Treasury Department at New Orleans, Louisiana, inasmuch as the informant advised that the above named individuals failed to pay income tax on the monies derived from the Gurvich Agency.

You are further instructed to be on the alert at all times for information concerning the questionable activities of Sam Gurvich and to promptly advise the Bureau of the information you receive.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECORDED DIRECTOR'S
OFFICE
8/7/39
66 W/60 S/7 300

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lawler _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Seals _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Q. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

ORIGINAL FILED IN

New Orleans, Louisiana
July 19, 1939

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

An individual, who refused to give his name, telephoned this office July 16, 1939, and stated that he wanted to furnish some information about the detective agency and patrol service operated in New Orleans by SAM GURVICH. He said that GURVICH had operated a detective agency in New Orleans and that the business operated by GURVICH went broke about three and one half years ago and that it was re-organized and that the present owners of the corporation are now ABEL USHAW, GEORGE REYER and SEYMOUR WEISS. He said that all of the business men in New Orleans are forced to use the patrol service of the GURVICH agency on a threat of having their taxes raised if they refused to subscribe to this service. He said that GURVICH has a large number of patrolmen on his force and that these officers have commissions as police officers and are employed by the city, state and parish to officiate at public functions where extra police duty is necessary.

He said that the GURVICH agency also has the protection of Pontchartrain Beach and that it is a matter of fact that the GURVICH agency is simply a racket which is operated in this city for the benefit of the above-named persons; namely, SHUSHAW, REYER and SEYMOUR WEISS. He said that he did not believe these individuals pay income tax on the monies derived from this corporation and that the same individuals also control the Jacobs Candy Company at New Orleans and the Yellow Cab Company, as well as the Cloverland Dairy.

This informant also stated that the business houses in New Orleans, Louisiana, were forced to subscribe for the GURVICH protection and that if they did not the City Board of Health would make an investigation of the premises and close the business.

Please advise me if the Bureau desires that this information be turned over to the local Intelligence Unit of the Treasury Department.

RECORDED

Very truly yours,
INDEX

B. E. SACILEY,
Special Agent in Charge

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RECEIVED	JUL 21 1939
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RLS:sh

JENKINS

JULY 18, 1939

On

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am attaching hereto, for your information, a copy of a teletype message of July 14, 1939, from the New Orleans Field Division of the FBI, reporting upon the developments in connection with the Louisiana State investigation.

102-15
102-5-1
COPY FILED

Respectfully,

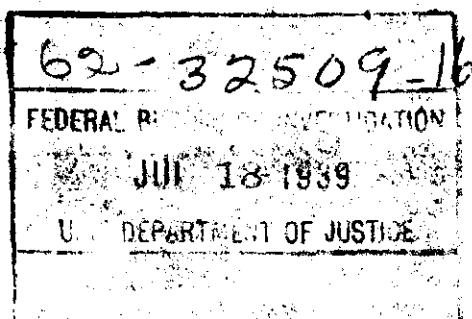
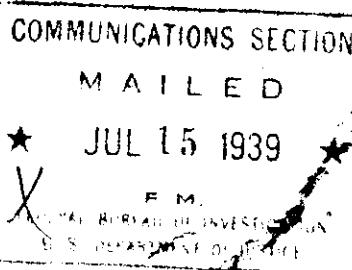
John Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

SEARCHED

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. C. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Feltworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. O. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____



SEARCHED

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RECORDED

JULY 19, 1964 INDEXED

62-32509-164

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 19 1964

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAS:OD
TIME 1:00 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. A. SACKETT

Re: Louisiana State Officials
Information Concerning

I telephoned Special Agent in Charge Sackett of New Orleans to advise him that the Attorney General had talked to United States Attorney Vlosca and instructed Vlosca to handle this situation vigorously.

In answer to my inquiry as to what Agent was best informed on this case, Mr. Sackett stated Agent Dunker. I instructed him to have Agent Dunker understand that we want to keep in very close touch with him on the details of all developments as the Attorney General and I are planning to come to New Orleans almost any day. I informed Mr. Sackett that before this trip was made, I wanted to know just how substantial some of these charges are and complete details as to what evidence Mr. Vlosca has to support the inclemencies he has made.

I mentioned that Vlosca has not impressed me as being a very aggressive man although he is probably very sincere, but it appears that some of these investigators are pushing him around. I told Mr. Sackett that the Attorney General had suggested Vlosca call a conference for all of these investigators and had also suggested that he, Vlosca, keep in very close touch with the Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau's New Orleans Office so the Bureau will know what is going on. Even though we are not conducting the investigation, the Attorney General does want the Bureau to keep an eye on the investigation in order that the Director can advise him as to what should be done. Therefore, I instructed Mr. Sackett to keep in very intimate touch with this investigation.

I asked Mr. Sackett if there were any Assistant United States Attorneys in Vlosca's Office who are tied in with the Louisiana political machine. Mr. Sackett advises that Herbert Christenderry, who is an Assistant United States Attorney who is presently handling the F.B.I. investigation, is a brother to Carl Christenderry who was a very close friend and secretary of Long and is presently the state publicity representative in Washington. I instructed Mr. Sackett to send me by teletype the names of any individuals who might be tied up with this machine for we cannot take any chance of a leak.

COPIES DESTROYED

2203 17 1964

54

Memo for Mr. Tamm

- 2 -

July 10.

Mr. Sackett advises Viosca has expressed to him some doubt as to Christenberry and Jones Skelly Wright or Wright is a nephew of the City Commissioneer in New Orleans who is involved in this investigation. I told Mr. Sackett that Viosca mentioned on the phone this morning to the Attorney General that there was some fellow that had been recommended for appointment by Seymour Weiss. Sackett stated this person was Gaudin (phonetic).

Mr. Sackett informs me that the Grand Jury would indict anybody and Viosca is being run by his assistants and doesn't seem to know what evidence he has or just what he is doing. I told Mr. Sackett that the Attorney General has ordered the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division to proceed to New Orleans and the Attorney General will probably come down there Monday.

Mr. Sackett then advised me that he had talked to Mr. Tamm regarding Seymour Weiss and the possibility of interviewing him before he is indicted on mail fraud, which case appears very indefinite. I mentioned that the Attorney General has instructed Viosca to indict no one until we can go over the evidence. In the meantime, I suggested that Mr. Sackett see what we have on this case. Mr. Sackett stated that the Post Office Inspectors have not submitted reports to Viosca, but Viosca is being guided by one J. Fair Gardin who was formerly an Assistant United States Attorney in Shreveport and is now Special Assistant to the State Attorney General.

I instructed Mr. Sackett to discuss this whole matter with Mr. Viosca to find out if he has any written reports. Mr. Sackett informs me that he has already talked to Viosca several days ago and finds that he has only a few signed statements. I stated that Viosca must get some memorandum of facts before he gets these indictments because the Attorney General will want to know this, and further since I have to advise the Attorney General, it is necessary that I know just where we stand. Therefore Viosca should demand a report of all written evidence so we can see just what evidence has been obtained.

Mr. Sackett stated he would send a teletype relative to this conversation and would see Mr. Viosca immediately.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

C O P Y (gmr)

JFH:HCB

July 7, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

For your information I am attaching
hereto a telephone report from the New Orleans
Office of the FBI dated July 7, concerning
Dr. James Monroe Smith and the political
situation in Louisiana.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-32509-163

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 18 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ORIGINAL FILED IN 5-162-647-X